

REACH

A publication of the U.S. Department of Energy for all Hanford Site employees



Final shipment of uranium sent to Ohio

The Department of Energy Richland Operations Office and Hanford contractor Fluor Hanford have made their final shipment of approximately 11.6 metric tons of uranium billets to DOE's Portsmouth Site in Ohio. The shipment left Hanford on Friday, May 4. The first of the 43 billet shipments left the Hanford Site in February.

With the May 4 shipment, Hanford successfully and safely met its public "scorecard" commitment to ship approximately 235 metric tons of uranium billets off site in fiscal year 2001. It also met a related Tri-Party Agreement target date.

"Completing these uranium shipments brings us an important step closer to cleaning up the Columbia River corridor," said Pete Knollmeyer, DOE-RL assistant manager for Nuclear Materials and Facility Stabilization. "The Department of Energy is meeting its commitment to move excess materials and waste off the Hanford Site."



Carpenters Jim Brown and Jim Fragola secure the last billet of uranium for shipment.

A billet is a uranium metal cylinder that can weigh up to 420 pounds. To prepare for transporting the billets, workers repackaged them into wooden boxes, sealed each box and then loaded them onto trucks approved by the Department of Transportation.

DOE-RL previously used the uranium billets for manufacturing fuel for Hanford's N Reactor, one of the nine deactivated plutonium production reactors along the Columbia River. The surplus billets have remained in storage facilities in the 300 Area since shutdown of the N Reactor in 1987. The Portsmouth Site serves as a central location where DOE is consolidating its surplus uranium for possible future resale or other disposition.

The billets are the second form of uranium to be dispositioned. In fiscal year 2000, DOE-RL and Fluor Hanford shipped 667 metric tons of uranium in the form of uranium trioxide, a powder, to the Portsmouth Site.

Continued on page 2.

Final shipment of uranium sent to Ohio, cont.

The final billet shipment also included 2.3 metric tons of uranium dioxide. Between the trioxide, billets and dioxide, DOE-RL has shipped approximately 900 metric tons of uranium to Ohio.

Removal of the uranium is part of the DOE-RL overall cleanup objectives in Hanford's 300 Area. The Portsmouth Site is part of the Oak Ridge Uranium Management Group, which has the responsibility of managing DOE's surplus uranium. That responsibility includes interim storage and possible sale of the usable material. ♦



Nuclear chemical operator Randy Strickland loads the last billet box into a truck for shipment.



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See the *Hanford Reach* on the Web at:
www.Hanford.gov/reach/index.html

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The *Hanford Reach* is published weekly
for all employees of the U.S. Department
of Energy's Hanford Site.

Deadline is 10 a.m. Thursday, 10 days prior to
Monday publication. All articles are subject to
editing. Consult with the Reach staff before
ordering photos. Contact the editors by phone,
fax, site mail or e-mail.



Printed on
recycled
and
recyclable
paper.

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CH2M HILL Hanford Group keeps the tank farms dry

Geoff Tyree, CHG

CH2M HILL Hanford Group has begun a project to keep water out of single-shell tank farms where past tank leaks have contaminated the soil. Over the decades, wastewater from past operations, runoff from rain or snow and leaks from water pipes have transported the contamination deeper toward the groundwater.

Sixty-seven of Hanford's older single-shell tanks have leaked or are assumed to have leaked an estimated 1 million gallons of radioactive waste into the ground in the past. There is evidence that some of the contamination has impacted the groundwater.

Working for the Department of Energy Office of River Protection, CHG is taking steps to prevent water from runoff or leaky pipes from moving existing radioactive and hazardous contamination further into the ground.

Historically, wastewater sent to cribs, retention ditches and drain fields was the major contributor of liquid to the ground in the vicinity of the tank farms.

Now, leaks from aging pressurized water lines are a concern. Several old water pipes run through and near the single-shell tank farms. Many of the pipes were installed in the 1950s — some as late as the 1970s, but none in more recent years.

Occasionally, water wells up on the surface above a water-line leak, sometimes causing a minor flood. Smaller leaks can occur with no visible signs on the surface, but these leaks can contribute a significant amount of water to the soil over time.

"We're eliminating all unnecessary water lines in or near the single-shell tank farms," said Frank Anderson, CHG Interim Measures manager. "We have a comprehensive program to take the old pipes out of service by physically capping them off, along with a testing program to ensure the remaining active lines aren't leaking."

DynCorp Tri-Cities Services is excavating the soil around the water lines and cutting and capping the lines or installing testing equipment. The work is being done outside the tank farms to reduce the risk to workers and to reduce project costs



Hanford crews are cutting and capping inactive water lines near single-shell tank farms and testing the remaining active lines to make sure they don't leak. The activities are part of a DOE Office of River Protection and CH2M HILL Hanford Group project. The goal of the project is to prevent runoff water or pipe leaks from moving existing radioactive and hazardous contamination that was caused by past tank leaks further into the ground. Several old water pipes run through and near the single-shell tank farms, and some were installed as long ago as the 1950



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A worker with the River Protection Project begins cutting a water pipe. Eliminating all unnecessary water lines in and near the single-shell tank farms will prevent water from possible leaks from driving existing contamination deeper.

Continued on page 4.

CH2M HILL Hanford Group keeps the tank farms dry, cont.

Runoff is also a concern. A quick snowmelt in February 1979 inundated more than one tank farm. Pictures of the event show Hanford workers standing in water up to their ankles. A water-main break in 1996 released more than 570,000 gallons of water and flooded an area near the S and SY Tank Farms.

To prevent water from entering the tank storage areas in the future, plans call for a combination of repaved roads, gutters and earthen berms to be built in the next two years. The project includes repaving a road with curbs next to the U Tank Farm and installing berms around the S, SX, T, TX and TY Tank Farms.

“These measures have the potential to significantly reduce the movement of existing radioactive and hazardous contaminants toward the groundwater,” said Rick Raymond, manager of the CHG Single-Shell Tanks Project. “Along with moving liquid waste out of the older tanks into double-shell tanks, this work is important to protecting the groundwater and the Columbia River.” ♦

Brookhaven manager to lead review of FFTF

The Department of Energy has named Michael Holland, manager of its Brookhaven Area Office, to lead the review of the decision to permanently deactivate Hanford's Fast Flux Test Facility.

Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham decided to suspend for 90 days a previous administration decision to shut the FFTF down. During that period, qualified personnel led by Holland will review all available information that might have an impact on the future of the FFTF. The scope of the review will encompass the following, according to a DOE statement:

- A review of all existing studies, reports, assessments and environmental reviews related to the FFTF's original missions of medical isotope production, Pu-238 production for space missions and nuclear energy research
- A well-defined forum for the submission of public- and private-sector interest in the continued operation of the FFTF for original and potential missions
- Additional opportunities for stakeholder input through open public meetings.

Holland has 25 years of experience in the conduct of operations of nuclear reactors and large facilities. He has been with the Department of Energy for 10 years overseeing the operation of research reactors, facility decommissioning and environmental restoration.

Holland has also led teams in the completion of complex projects for the shipment of spent nuclear fuel, community outreach and the commissioning and decommissioning of large facilities.

The FFTF operated from 1982 until 1992 to test advanced fuels and materials in support of the national Liquid Metal Fast Breeder Reactor Program. The plant also produced a variety of medical and industrial isotopes, including tritium, and conducted research and testing for advanced power systems. ♦

Memorial Day — it's more than a three-day vacation

Memorial Day is a time to remember those who died in service to our nation to preserve our freedom. Besides being a time to remember the men and women who made the supreme sacrifice, however, it's also about acknowledging and protecting the ideals they died for, so their sacrifices were not in vain.

On Memorial Day, we come together not to remember those who fell in a single battle, but to remember too many patriots who died in too many wars. We carry on a tradition that can be traced back to President Lincoln and his address dedicating the Gettysburg battlefield cemetery.

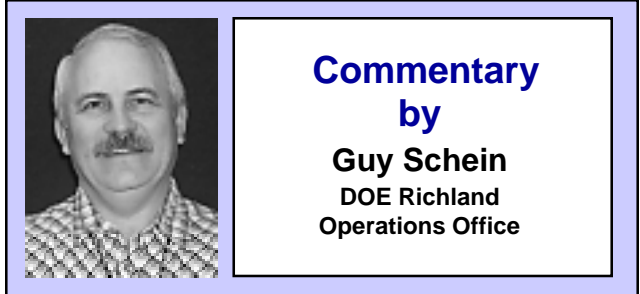
It's a sacred day to all war veterans. None need be reminded of the reason why Memorial Day must be commemorated. But what about the general public — and, more importantly, future generations? Do most non-veterans really recognize this day's importance?

Observing Memorial Day should be regarded as a civic obligation. We owe a debt that can be truly repaid only by individual Americans. By honoring the nation's war dead, we preserve their memory and thus the meaning of their service and sacrifice.

Why remember? Sacrifice is meaningless without remembrance. America's collective consciousness demands that all citizens recall and acknowledge, on special occasions, the deaths of their fellow countrymen during wartime. Our freedoms were paid for with the lives of others whom few of us actually knew. But they are collectively remembered on this one special day.

Who are we remembering? On Memorial Day, America commemorates those who made the greatest possible sacrifice — giving one's own life selflessly. We mourn the loss of all who died defending our country since 1775. In 226 years, some 60 military actions have claimed 1.4 million lives. Those men and women are mostly anonymous except to their loved ones. They came from all walks of life and regions of the country. They were our relatives, friends and neighbors, and they all had one thing in common — love of country.

What do we remember? GIs do not choose where they serve or what foreign policy they must enforce. While most Americans are familiar with the major wars — the American Revolution, the War of 1812, the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, World Wars I and II, Korea, Vietnam and the Persian Gulf — few think of those killed in "minor" conflicts. Whether it was in the Franco-American Naval War of 1798 or the tragedy aboard the USS *Cole*, no American death in service to country is insignificant.



“...the highest obligation and privilege of citizenship is that of bearing arms for one's country.”

— Gen. George S. Patton, Jr.

Continued on page 7.

Memorial Day — it's more than a three-day vacation, cont.

How do we remember? Attending commemorative ceremonies is the most visible way of remembering the fallen. But simply pausing for a few moments of personal silence is an option for everyone. Placing flags at gravesites, marching in parades, sponsoring patriotic programs, dedicating memorials and wearing poppies are some other ways to show you care.

Whether done individually or collectively, it is the thought that counts. Personal as well as public acts that show your gratitude and patriotism are essential if the notion of remembering war dead is to be instilled in the young.

As America's war vets disappear from society's notice, there are fewer and fewer standard-bearers left to carry this torch of remembrance. Such traditions will live on only if there is a vibrant movement to which that torch can be passed.

When do we remember? Until the National Holiday Act of 1971, Memorial Day was observed each May 30. That custom became a tradition with the Grand Army of the Republic, the Union veterans organization that made honoring Civil War dead a civic duty for all citizens.

New York was the first state — in 1873 — to declare "Decoration Day," as it was known then, a national holiday. By 1890, all northern states had followed suit. Changing to a Monday holiday in 1971, merely to create another three-day weekend, has somewhat undermined the meaning of Memorial Day and contributed to the general public's nonchalant observance of it.

Perhaps the most profound tribute of all was made on the first national memorial observance, in May 1868, by then General James A. Garfield. His words ring true today for all fallen veterans of all wars: "They summed up and perfected, by one supreme act, the highest virtues of men and citizens. For love of country they accepted death, and thus resolved all doubts, and made immortal their patriotism and virtue." ♦

"...from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain."

— Abraham Lincoln

Presidents' Council honors Hanford safety achievers

Deborah Dunn, FH

"These are no accident," said Fluor Hanford President and Chief Executive Officer Keith Thomson as he presented two Safety Excellence awards at a meeting of the Presidents' Zero Accident Council, or PZAC.

Representatives of the Fast Flux Test Facility received a plaque and handshakes all around for achieving a million work hours without a lost-time injury. Thomson noted that FFTF is currently at 1.6 million safe work hours, accumulated since October 1997.

The Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center was honored for reaching the 750,000-hour milestone. HAMMER develops and provides safety training for the Hanford Site, and Thomson said the HAMMER staff is to be commended for "safely creating unsafe situations" to be used for training purposes.

Thomson said these accomplishments demonstrate two of Fluor's corporate core values — teamwork and safety. He said Fluor values also include integrity and excellence, but safety is primary.

PZAC moderator Dave Jackson, Fluor Hanford director of Occupational Safety and Health, welcomed 69 Hanford employees and guests to the council's May 3 meeting. It was held at the Trade, Recreation and Agricultural Center in conjunction with the Hanford Health and Safety Expo.

Jackson characterized Expo 2001 as "an excellent opportunity for the workforce, our families and community to see what Hanford is all about." The three-day event drew a total attendance exceeding 20,000 — the biggest turnout in the event's seven-year history.

Achievements

The Security Maintenance organization was honored at the PZAC meeting for achieving 20 years without a lost-time injury. Dave Van Leuven, Fluor Hanford vice president and chief operating officer, presented a plaque along with his congratulations, calling this a "phenomenal safety achievement dating back to April 1981."

Van Leuven also presented an award to the Waste Encapsulation and Storage Facility for one year without an OSHA-recordable accident. He said the achievement was made during a time when significant and difficult work was accomplished, including hot-cell cleanout, deep-well pump repair and electrical safety modifications.

Roger Powell received a standing ovation upon receiving the Presidents' Lifesaving Award, presented by Becky Austin, FH vice president of Environment, Safety and Health. Powell, who currently does tank sampling with CH2M HILL Hanford Group, was an employee of FH Analytical Services last February when weekend travels brought him to a fatal accident scene.

Powell was honored for administering first aid to several members of a dance troupe from China after their van overturned on icy Highway 395. Powell credited his Hanford first-aid class with enabling him to stop bleeding, protect victims from shock and perform other lifesaving acts at the accident scene. He advocates first-aid training for all Hanford employees.

More safety activity

Shirley Olinger, DOE-RL assistant manager for Safety and Engineering, said Hanford is participating in a National Safety Council survey of DOE sites. Employees have been randomly selected to participate and responses are due by May 25. DOE-RL is looking for a 90-percent response rate from recipients of the survey. Those with questions may call 376-5183.

March safety statistics showed the continuation of a seven-month-long decline in the severity of injuries for all of Hanford. According to Jackson, Fluor Hanford projects need to focus, as CHG is currently doing, on ergonomic injuries that occur during lifting, pushing and pulling activities.

John Jeskey of the HAMTC Safety Representative program announced that Greg Doss will be joining Joe Rodriguez as the new HAMTC safety representative for CHG's Tank Farms organization. ♦

Material tracking system leverages core competencies

Dana Jensen, LMSI

A team of technical and functional experts from Department of Energy Environmental Management sites at Savannah River, Rocky Flats and Hanford got together the week of May 7 at Lockheed Martin Services in Richland for a design review meeting on the Local Area Network Material Accounting System, or LANMAS.

LANMAS, an accountability system, went into production at Hanford in September 1999 and is in use at 11 other DOE sites. The system was developed and is maintained by the Savannah River site.

During a 1998 alternatives analysis study performed by LMSI for B&W Protec, LANMAS — supplemented with two Hanford Site-specific applications — was examined as one upgrade solution for the nuclear materials management system.

“LANMAS provided compliance with DOE Order requirements across the complex, but did not meet all of the local requirements,” said Tom Ibsen, LMSI project lead. “Developing applications to meet site-specific needs to work with LANMAS was a much more cost-effective and lower-risk approach. Combined with the fast-approaching Year 2000 deadline, LANMAS was determined to be the best solution for Hanford.”

Agreement coming

An agreement between the U.S. government and the International Atomic Energy Agency, or IAEA, will be signed within the next several months. This agreement, known as a “Facility Attachment,” requires DOE to provide specific nuclear materials tracking reports.

The Hanford Site may be required to begin reporting this data as early as October. LMSI is responsible for developing the software required to generate key reports from the LANMAS system, working under the project direction of Day & Zimmermann Protection Technology Hanford.

After the three-day meeting, Philip Gibbs, LANMAS project director for Westinghouse Savannah River, sent e-mail to project team members hanking them for their hard work and ability to achieve a consensus path forward. “When we started this collaborative effort, we knew it wouldn’t be as easy as each doing this on their own,” Gibbs wrote. “The geographic distance that separates us, the different legacy business practices each of us bring to the project, the abstract or difficult requirements, plus other things all work to make this a challenging project. However, as I stated in the management out brief, I believe that being able to successfully complete these types of projects is important to our respective companies and our customer. After the last two days, I have no doubts that we will complete this one successfully.”

Actions completed

While the system design is currently in process for the IAEA reporting capability, several important activities have already been completed including a project management plan, system requirements specifications, technical baseline, developer training and definition of base test data. Software development environments were also synchronized with common use of Visual Basic, SQL Server, Crystal Reports and third-party tools.

Participants in the meeting included representatives of the DOE Richland Operations Office, Day & Zimmermann Protection Technology Hanford, Westinghouse Savannah River Co., the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site, Nuclear Assurance Corporation, Lockheed Martin Services and Fluor Hanford.

For more information on the Facility Agreement, contact Larry McRae of PTH at 376-8100 or via e-mail to larry_p_mcr@rl.gov. ♦

Picture Pages

TEACHING

TEACHERS: Mike Sackschewsky, a botanist with Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, briefs science teachers on the effects of last summer's wildfire that burned nearly all of the Fitzner-Eberhardt Arid Lands Ecology Reserve. PNNL arranged the field trip in appreciation for teacher support of the Community Science and Technology Seminar Series hosted by PNNL and Columbia Basin College. The tour was coordinated with the Fish and Wildlife Service, managers of the ALE.



FASHION STATEMENT: John Umbarger of Fluor Hanford was one of dozens of models at the family fashion show fund-raiser on April 26, sponsored by the National Management Association Hanford Chapter. Models, some with less attractive legs, displayed outfits from a broad selection of local retailers. The fashion show raised funds to help underwrite the youth activities, awards and scholarships supported by NMA.



PNNL signs cooperative research agreement

Scientists at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and Motorola Labs have entered a cooperative research and development agreement, called a CRADA. The agreement is aimed at increasing the speed of future generations of integrated circuits.

Together, the scientists will pursue new materials that they believe may overcome a fundamental physics problem that threatens to limit future semiconductor improvements, and for which the semiconductor industry currently has no solution.

For decades, the semiconductor industry has been able to continue increasing the amount of circuitry on a chip while reducing its size — enabling smaller, faster and better electronic products. However, researchers have long known that the industry will eventually hit a wall that will prevent semiconductor designers from achieving additional size reduction.

The problem lies with the current gate insulating material, a layer of silicon dioxide the thickness of 25 individual silicon atoms. The silicon dioxide layer “gates” the electrons, controlling the flow of electricity across the transistor.

Each time the chip is reduced in size, the silicon dioxide layer must be proportionally thinned. At some point, however, the silicon dioxide will no longer be able to provide effective insulation from the effects of quantum tunneling, which is the natural tendency of electrons to flow across thin barriers or thin insulators.

To develop an effective gate insulator, most industry experts predict the need to develop new materials, so ORNL and Motorola Labs have been developing crystalline oxides on silicon and other semiconductor materials.

In 1999, Motorola demonstrated the world’s thinnest functional transistor by growing a strontium titanate crystalline material on a silicon substrate.

“By using crystalline oxides, we’re able to eliminate one of the hurdles to continuing the current rate of growth in the semiconductor industry,” said Rodney McKee of ORNL’s Metals and Ceramics Division.

The three-year research agreement has two phases. The first will involve transferring the details of ORNL’s patented crystalline oxide on silicon process to Motorola Labs and PNNL. The second phase includes testing and optimizing the technology.

Oak Ridge and Pacific Northwest are both Department of Energy multi-program laboratories. Motorola Labs is the advanced research arm of Motorola, Inc. and also licenses technologies to external customers. ♦

Hanford contractors help kick off RiverFest 2001

George Rangel, BHI

Hanford contractors and the *Tri-City Herald* are reaching out to the community by sponsoring the RiverFest 2001 run/walk at Columbia Park on June 16. The event will benefit non-profit organizations in Benton and Franklin counties. Bechtel Hanford President Mike Hughes and representatives of other sponsoring companies kicked off this year's RiverFest in a ceremony at the Playground of Dreams in Columbia Park on May 10.

"The kickoff showcased our sponsors and the community's real colors," said Tami Arntzen, executive director of the Volunteer Center of Benton and Franklin Counties. "It lets us know that support exists from all areas of the community."

The Volunteer Center, its 3,000 volunteers and the 240 agencies it serves in Benton and Franklin counties will benefit from RiverFest's 10-kilometer, 5-kilometer and 1-mile run/walk events along the shores of the Columbia River. Participants will collect pledges for their efforts.

One unique aspect of RiverFest is that participants may earmark their pledges for the organizations of their choice. "As a sponsor, it is appealing to us," Hughes said, "because it allows our employees and everyone else in the community to participate in a fun event to raise money for their favorite charity."

"The proceeds from RiverFest will give an opportunity to provide services to the community with resources and people that might otherwise not be there," said Melissa O'Neil, *Tri-City Herald* promotions and marketing coordinator. "We started this during the 'Year of the River' in 1998 with hopes that RiverFest will become to the Tri-Cities what Bloomsday is to Spokane."

There will be a pasta feed and auction the night before, on June 15, at the Best Western Tower Inn in Richland. The race begins at the east end of Columbia Park in the morning.

RiverFest 2000 generated more than \$32,000 for 23 local non-profit agencies. This year's event is projected to raise even more financial support for the Volunteer Center.

Joining this year's RiverFest cast will be the Benton-Franklin Humane Society's Paws in the Park fundraiser, including exhibit booths, demonstrations and vendors.

"Hanford has shown its support in helping to build a stronger community," said Arntzen. "It's a chance for everyone to get involved to better the place where they live, have some fun and raise some money for worthy causes."

Other sponsors include CH2M HILL Hanford Group, Fluor Hanford, Johnson Controls, the Hanford Environmental Health Foundation and television station KEPR.

For more information, call the Volunteer Center at 582-0631 to have a form mailed to you, or download one from Bechtel's Web site at www.bhi-erc.com/outreach/projects.htm. ♦



Bechtel Hanford President Mike Hughes speaks for the sponsors of RiverFest 2001 at the kick-off event in Columbia Park. From the left are Shelly Ohman of Johnson Controls; Erin Weber of the Hanford Environmental Health Foundation; Hughes; John Umbarger of Fluor Hanford; and Melissa O'Neil of the *Tri-City Herald*.

CHG author's book a change from procedures

Erin Donahoe, CHG

Beth Gibson, a technical writer for CH2M HILL Hanford Group, always knew she would be a published author of something more captivating than a tank-farm procedure manual. This past March, her dream came true.

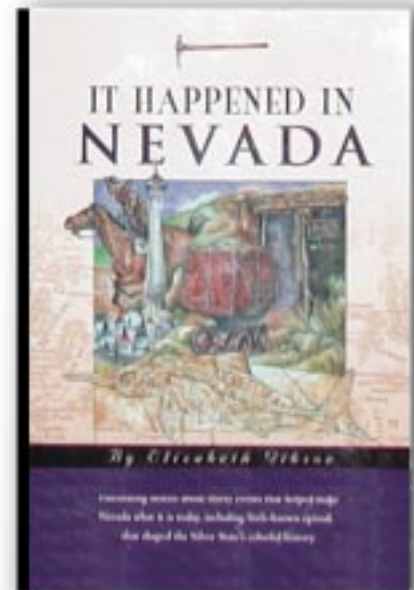
Gibson's new book, *It Happened in Nevada*, is a colorful history of the state as told through personal stories about the people who lived it. It's part of a series of "It Happened in..." books on various states, and Gibson was familiar with the series. Then she stumbled across an ad asking for writers to explore states that hadn't been covered in the series.

Having just visited Nevada, Gibson thought it would be a natural choice. She wrote and submitted a proposal, then began her research — starting with the books she had purchased on her trip and scouring the Internet for other stories and sources. Videos on PBS and the A&E Network provided some fascinating stories as well.

It Happened in Nevada explores beyond the glitz of Las Vegas and Reno. In her writing, Gibson brings the state's history to life with unusual stories and anecdotes. "I was looking for stuff beyond what the state bird is," Gibson said. "I wanted something more interesting."

Gibson, who has worked at Hanford for 18 years, earned a degree in English history in May of 1997. She has also served as editor of the East Benton Historical Society newsletter.

She said her just-published book will not be her last. In fact, she's already working on another manuscript about Washington State outlaws for the same publisher, due out next fall. ♦



Gibson

Burr, Wiatrak each named NMA member of the year

In a rare and unusual move, Claudia Burr and Sharon Wiatrak were each honored as member of the year by the Hanford Chapter of the National Management Association. The honors were announced at the May chapter meeting.

Each of them has been a Hanford Chapter officer this year in a critical leadership position. Wiatrak has been the chapter's member relations vice president and Burr has been programs and operations vice president.

They both are members of the CH2M HILL Hanford Group team and are just as actively involved in the functions of CHG. Burr is a systems engineer and facilitator; Wiatrak is an administrative assistant.

"Each year the Hanford Chapter presents its highest individual honor to a member who has contributed in a wide variety of ways to the chapter's success," said Don Hart of Duratek in announcing the awards. Hart is national vice chairman for NMA.

"Our chapter can be proud of the examples and leadership of our past chapter members of the year," said Hart. "This year is no exception to that fine history."

Nominators for this year's chapter member of the year provided some interesting and inspirational factors for the Recognition Committee members to consider.

Both nominees had been innovative. Wiatrak encouraged the application of membership recruiting and development and Burr provided the chapter with program activities of high excellence.

Wiatrak had been a publisher and editor for the membership and Burr had been an effective communicator with senior management.

Wiatrak had been a chapter fundraiser and Burr continually recognized those around her and shunned the spotlight – preferring to encourage and teach others to make things happen.

Burr promoted responsible leadership and professional development and Wiatrak served as the chapter focal point for involvement of new members and as a volunteer coordinator.

Burr shared her hidden talents unselfishly with the chapter and Wiatrak had unbridled enthusiasm for all chapter activities and all that is necessary to keep the chapter on track.

"We actually have two members of the year who typify the teamwork and active interplay that are characteristic of this year's leadership team," said Hart.

Both honorees will be entered in competition at NMA's national member of the year level. ♦



Burr



Wiatrak

NMA manager of the year involves, recognizes his people

Rick Raymond is a CH2M HILL Hanford Group vice president who devotes an amazing amount of time and energy to ensure that employees in his organization understand expectations and how the employees fit into the organization.

The energy spent on communication is just one of the reasons the Hanford Chapter of the National Management Association selected Raymond as the chapter's manager of the year for 2001. Mike Payne, chief operating officer and senior vice president of CHG, made the presentation during the chapter's May 9 meeting at the Richland Red Lion.

For the past year, Raymond has managed the Single-Shell Tank Farm Project for CH2M HILL Hanford Group. Before that, he managed the SY-101 Project.

Raymond is open and honest. He communicates well with his employees, his management and his customers. His management style is based on respect for others and recognition of their contributions. His actions demonstrate that he truly understands the importance of a strong "team" effort, and realizes the importance of the individuals working with him.

"Rick takes every opportunity to recognize these individuals for their accomplishments," said Payne. "Rick has personally submitted 250 Special Recognition rewards in the CHG program."

Many of these same individuals were involved in submitting the winning manager of the year nomination.

Raymond builds enthusiasm in the workplace by involving his employees and getting them to take ownership of the Single-Shell Tank Farm Project's vision and mission. He encourages his employees to be innovative and to set goals that are above the expected.

Like most managers at his level, Raymond spends a lot of time in meetings and in one-on-one situations, but he also makes it a point to spend a fourth of his time involved in management-by-walking-around. One example of this is the lunch meetings he holds to promote team-building. Discussions at the luncheons focus on personal career objectives, family values and special hobbies or interests.

Under Rick's leadership, his staff resolved the Tank SY-101 flammable gas issue 10 months ahead of schedule and \$1 million under budget. This project was recognized in March by the Project Management Institute Columbia River Basin Chapter as its project of the year.

Rick's leadership also shows in the interim stabilization program. "His team is approximately nine months ahead of the consent decree schedule to complete removal of the pumpable liquids from the single-shell tanks," said Payne.

In the community, Raymond is committee chairman for the Three Rivers District of the Boy Scouts of America. "This means he manages the district and more than 1,000 volunteers," said Payne.

Raymond also referees soccer for the Tri-Cities Youth Soccer Association and is a technical lecturer for the University of Washington and Whitman College. ♦



Raymond



Buy Savings Bonds Through Payroll Savings.

Start saving now for tomorrow

Many employees feel like they're just getting by each month, no matter how much they earn. They live paycheck to paycheck, with little or no money set aside for the future or for emergencies. If that sounds like you, there is a safe way for you to start getting ahead.

On the other hand, perhaps your family has put money into stocks or mutual funds and has seen their value drop. If your nest egg has eroded in the past year, you don't need to be reminded that many savings plans offer no guarantees.

This month, Hanford employers are distributing information and sign-up cards that will make it easy for you to stick to a savings plan by buying U.S. Savings Bonds through the convenient Payroll Savings Plan. The plan allows you to put away some money from each paycheck before the money can be spent, and put it in a safe investment that earns competitive interest.

When you receive your sign-up card, consider these advantages of buying Bonds:

- The new Series I Bonds are sold at full face value and offer a real rate of return above and beyond inflation.
- Whether you select the new I Bonds or the familiar Series EE Bonds, your money is guaranteed to grow and remain safe.
- On both types of Bonds, interest accrues monthly and is compounded semiannually.
- Bonds can be cashed after six months if necessary, but retained bonds will continue to earn interest for 30 years.
- Federal income tax is deferred until your Bonds reach maturity or you cash them.
- There are no fees or service charges.
- Bonds are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government.
- Only \$100 a month saved can build to a sum of more than \$100,000 over a 30-year period.

Economists say America now has a *negative* savings rate. It's no wonder, with increases in the cost of housing, food, energy and everything else we need for our families, that it's difficult to save.

But, with automatic allotments from your paycheck in whatever amount you choose, you'll be paying yourself first! This month, sign up for the Payroll Savings Plan. ♦

Regular Features



LETTERS

Employees are invited to write letters of general interest on work-related topics. Anonymous letters will not be printed. We reserve the right to edit letters or not to accept letters for publication. Send your letters to the *Reach*, B3-30, or to *Hanford Reach on e-mail. Letters are limited to 300 words, and must include your name, company, work group and location. Opinions expressed are those of the author and not of DOE-RL, ORP or their contractors.

Effective strategy?

When there is an election, supporters clutter George Washington Way waving signs in my face, and waving at me. I wonder why they choose this street to attract attention, when most motorists who are traveling George Washington Way are going home to Kennewick or Pasco, and we don't vote for Richland school bonds, etc.

Sure, they have the right to express themselves, but I think they would benefit their cause better if they chose a different area or many different areas where more Richland residents would travel past them.

Their actions also cause traffic to slow way down because it is a distraction to motorists trying to read signs.

Denise Campos
Bechtel Hanford

Another thank-you

In my letter to the *Hanford Reach* on May 7, "Expo thank-you," I missed thanking CH2M HILL Hanford Group for allowing its employees to participate in Expo 2001.

Thank you, CHG, and I apologize for not including you in my letter on May 7.

Janette Pettet
Fluor Hanford



CALENDAR

ALARA Workshop to be held May 22-24

The third Hanford Applied ALARA Workshop will be held May 22 through 24 at the Richland Red Lion Hotel. Workshop participants are eligible to receive 32 continuing education credits from the American Association of Health Physicists and eight maintenance points from the National Registry of Radiation Protection Technologists. For more information, including an agenda for the workshop, visit www.hanford.gov/esh/ALARA/index.html, or

contact Pat Barajas at 376-0560 or Patricia_S_Barajas@rl.gov for registration. You may also contact Jerry Eby at 372-8961 or Jerald_L_Eby@rl.gov for general information.

Klein and Boston to speak at meeting

The Eastern Washington Chapter of the Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers will hold the "Second Joint Meeting of the Local Scientific and Professional Organizations" from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on May 24 at the Battelle Auditorium. Keith Klein, Department of Energy Richland Operations Office manager, and Harry Boston, Department of Energy Office of River Protection manager, will address the meeting. For more information, contact Rampur Viswanath at 376-9223.

NMA Hanford Chapter presents awards night

The Hanford Chapter of the National Management Association will hold its third annual youth awards presentation on Thursday, May 24, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Washington State University Tri-Cities Library. The awards are co-sponsored by Fluor Hanford and CH2M HILL Hanford Group. Awards and scholarships will be given in the categories of Eagle Scout of the Year, Girl Scout Gold Award, Young Citizens of the Year, Young Entrepreneur of the Year, WSU Student Community Volunteer of the Year and Running Start Student of the Year. The winners of the NMA Speech Contest and the Science Fair will also be recognized. Michael McDonnal and Rusty Faust of KONA radio will emcee the event and refreshments will be served. The public is invited.

WSA annual dinner meeting showcases local IT businesses

The Southeast Chapter of the Washington Software Alliance will hold its annual dinner meeting in conjunction with the WSA's Marketplace Northwest 2001 dinner meeting from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 24, at the DoubleTree Hotel in Bellevue. Lockheed Martin Services is sponsoring this year's annual meeting, which will showcase information technology companies from the Tri-

Continued on page 18.

Regular Features

C A L E N D A R, cont.



Cities in a special exhibit and information exchange with leaders from software and IT-related companies in the Puget Sound area. Pre-registration for the dinner meeting is \$40 for WSA members, \$56 for non-members. For more information or to register, please contact Albert Torres at 735-1143 or at albert@payplusbenefits.com, or Dana Jensen at 373-3843 or at dana_s_jensen@rl.gov. Group travel arrangements to and from the meeting on the same day are available at no charge to interested attendees.

Society of Women Engineers' meeting features PNNL director

Lura Powell, director of the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, will speak on the topic "Some Education Approaches for Filling the Science Pipeline with Women" during the May 30 meeting of the Society of Women Engineers, Eastern Washington Section, at the Richland Shilo Inn. The social hour begins at 5:30 p.m., dinner begins at 6:30 and the talk begins at 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. Make your reservation by contacting Marie Gillespie at (509) 727-6180 or at Marie_T_Gillespie-Kile@rl.gov by Friday, May 25. Prepayment is preferred. Mail your check to SWE-EWS, P.O. Box 364, Richland, WA 99352. The public is encouraged to attend the meeting.

Give blood at HAMMER

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive May 31, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., in the vehicle bay of the Training Support Building at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments are highly recommended. Call Libby Sickler at 376-7117 to make your appointment.

Eighth annual 100N site reunion to be held June 1 and 2

The friends and families of the UNC/WHC N-Reactor-100N/K/300 Area Fuels retired personnel and all other associated groups will hold their eighth annual reunion on June 1 and 2 in Richland. The first event will take place right after work at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, June 1, at Jackson's Sports Bar and Restau-

rant. The second event, a picnic, will take place beginning at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 2, near the Fingernail at Howard Amon Park, just across the street from Jackson's. Bring a picnic lunch, non-alcoholic beverages, lawn chairs and any other items to have a nice, comfortable afternoon in the park. For more information, contact Joyce LoParco at 372-9297 or 582-6994, Sherry Foreman at 943-5934, or Paul Vinther at 943-1747.

June 6 data sharing forum open to all who maintain spatial data

The Hanford Site Spatial Data Council and the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Geospatial Information and Technology Association are co-sponsoring the Southeastern Washington Data Sharing Forum on June 6, 1 to 3:30 p.m., at the Federal Building Auditorium. The forum will discuss current data-sharing activities in southeastern Washington, and ways to improve geographic information data-sharing. The forum is free. If you are interested in speaking at this forum, please send your name, agency affiliation and a short paragraph describing your presentation. Presentations will be limited to 15 minutes, followed by a five-minute question and answer period. Register for the forum by contacting Steven Rush at 376-4001 or at steven_f_rush@rl.gov.

Paws in the Park 2001 combined with RiverFest this summer

The Benton-Franklin Humane Society fund-raiser, Paws in the Park, will take place Saturday, June 16, in Columbia Park. You can walk with your dog, walk with a friend or walk by yourself. Last year, several hundred people walked in the event and raised more than \$12,000 to support the Humane Society's services to the community. This year, the event is combined with the Volunteer Center's RiverFest, which raises money for local non-profit agencies. If you're interested in participating in the pledge walk, call the Humane Society at 374-4235 for more information. ♦

Regular Features

C L A S S E S



Columbia Basin College Small Business Development Center offers:

- **Small Business Accounting Basics** – June 6, 5:30-9:30 p.m. Cost: \$35. Instructor: Donald Smith, CPA.
- **Small Business Tax Basics and Preparation** – May 22 or June 13, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Cost: \$30. Instructor: Donald Smith, CPA.
- **Small Business Advertising and Marketing: What's the difference?** – June 5, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Cost: \$15. Instructor: Melanie Jones.
- **Small Business Public Relations Basics** – May 29 or June 12, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Cost: \$15. Instructor: Melanie Jones.
- **Small Business Customer Relations** – May 23, 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Cost: \$15. Instructor: Melanie Jones.

All classes will be held in the TRIDEC Conference Room at 901 N. Colorado, Kennewick. To register or to obtain more information, call Ritzy Rafer at 735-6222, or mail your request to CBC-SBDC, 901 N. Colorado St., Kennewick, WA 99336.

Beryllium Assigned Worker course to be offered at HAMMER

Beginning May 30, Beryllium Assigned Worker (PeopleSoft Course Number 004100) will be offered at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center. Piloted in April, the course will be compliant with 10 CFR 850.37. Its target audience will be Hanford employees assigned to work with beryllium, beryllium-containing materials, or beryllium contamination. Students may register for Beryllium Assigned Worker through their training coordinators, in PeopleSoft under Course Number 004100, or by sending an e-mail to ^Training - HAMMER. For questions or further information about this course, call Bill Robinson at 373-6338.

Root cause analysis courses offered at HAMMER

Decision Systems Inc., will offer its REASON® 4 Root Cause Analysis basic, advanced and executive briefing classes the week of July 9 at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center. You may register for any of these classes online at www.rootcause.com/open_training.htm or by contacting Jason at (903) 236-9973 or jjones@rootcause.com.

The REASON® 4 Root Cause Analysis basic class will be offered Monday, July 9, and Tuesday, July 10, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the HAMMER Administration Building, room 28. During the course, attendees will learn to break problems down into essential parts, model systems formed by the parts, and analyze models to identify root causes and best solutions. Students will learn about root cause methodology and software applications — where the emphasis is on applying and managing elements of the data-gathering process. The cost is \$650 per person. This basic course is a prerequisite for the three-day REASON® 4 Root Cause Analysis advanced class.

The REASON® 4 Root Cause Analysis advanced class will be offered Wednesday, July 11, through Friday, July 13, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the HAMMER Administration Building, room 16. This class offers in-depth practical study and application of the REASON® 4 Root Cause Analysis method. Through hands-on computer-based learning, students will gain the skills necessary to serve as site resource people. The cost for this course is \$975 per person.

The cost for the combined two-day basic class and the three-day advanced class is \$1,475 per person. This figure represents a savings of \$150 per person over registering for the classes separately.

Continued on page 20.

Regular Features

C L A S S E S, cont.



Decisions Systems, Inc., will offer a four-hour executive briefing class Monday, July 9, and Tuesday, July 10, from 8 a.m. to noon at the HAMMER Administration Building in conference room 31. Instruction will focus on discussing and demonstrating, from an executive manager's perspective, the key elements, concepts and applications of the REASON® 4 Root Cause Analysis System for operations improvement. The cost for the executive briefing class is \$75 per person.

D2000 offers trenching and excavation classes

D2000 Safety Solutions will offer the Trenching and Excavation for Competent Persons courses at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center three times this year. Classes begin at 7:30 a.m. and will be held Tuesday, June 26-Thursday, June 28, TSB Annex Room 2; Monday, July 23 - Wednesday, July 25, TSB Annex Room 1; or Monday, Oct. 22 - Wednesday, Oct. 24, TSB Annex Room 1.

The hands-on course is designed to meet the requirements of 29 CFR 1926.650 regulations and uses field exercises, group discussions and problem-solving to build related skills. Students successfully completing the program receive a certificate of completion. The class has been reviewed and approved for 2.4 CEUs by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training. The course cost is \$595 per person. Class size is limited to 25. Students may register by phoning Vicky DeMoss at (800) 551-8763.

D2000 offers confined space rescue class

Wednesday, Aug. 22, through Friday, Aug. 24, D2000 Safety Solutions will offer an Operations Level Confined Space Rescue class at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center. The class begins at the Administration Building in Room 15 at 7:30 a.m. The class is designed to meet the requirements of OSHA 29 CFR 1910.146. It includes both lecture and enactment training. Students successfully completing the course will receive a Confined Space Rescue student manual and certificate of completion. The course cost is \$695 per person. The prerequisite is Confined Space Entrant Attendant. Students may register by phoning Vicky DeMoss at (800) 551-8763.

'Hanford in Context' offered this summer

By popular demand, the three-credit course, "Hanford in Context," (ES/RP 490 / 592) will be offered from June 19 to Aug. 9 at the Washington State University Tri-Cities campus. Lectures will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:15 to 5:15 p.m. There will also be three Saturday field trips. Learn about Hanford from some of the people "who really know." Registrations for the course are being accepted through the WSU Tri-Cities Admissions and Registration Office at www.tricity.wsu.edu. For further information, contact the course coordinator, Dr. James Cochran, via e-mail at cochranj@tricity.wsu.edu. Visit the Hanford in Context Web page at www.pnl.gov/educationk20/hinc.stm. ♦

Regular Features



VANPOOLS

Day & Zimmermann Protection Technology Hanford reminds employees to wear their badges. Vanpool and carpool drivers are responsible for ensuring riders are badged. If a passenger forgets his or her badge, Patrol must be informed at the barricades. For more information, look on the Hanford Web in the Projects and Activities section, Safeguards and Security at <http://www.rl.gov:1050/sas/pg1v3htm>.

BENTON CITY

Seats available on friendly vanpool to 200E. Meet at Ki-Be Market. 8x9 schedule, reliable and safe drivers. Call **Ron Wight** at 376-2647 or **Susan Leckband** at 372-3413. 5/14

DESERT AIRE

Need 8x9 non-smoking ride or share to 200 Area. Call **Anita** at 373-2283. 5/21

KENNEWICK

8x9 vanpool to 200E has an opening. Picks up at the church on 19th, Garfield and Albertson's on Clearwater. Drops off at 274-AW, 2750-E and 2704-HV. Call **Sue Hulsey** at 372-3752. 5/14

PASCO

Vanpool No.139 to 200E and 200W needs riders. 8x9, 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Picks up at Road 100 Sleep Inn in Pasco with a stop at the Federal Building in Richland. Contact **Robert Spears** at 372-0984. 5/14

RICHLAND

Gas prices are going up again. Looking for a much cheaper and easier commute? We have opening in van from the Richland Wye Park 'n Ride to 200W, 8x9s, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Call **Fred Sargent** at 373-2106. 5/21

PFP vanpool riders needed. Van leaves from the Richland Wye, picks up at the Federal Building and delivers to PFP only. 8x9 shift. Call **Kim** at 373-2632 or **Sandi** at 373-4104. 5/21

WEST RICHLAND

Vanpool opening to 200E and 2704-HV, 8x9 schedule. Contact **Duane Shults** at 373-4244 or **John Wells** at 373-3733 for more information. 5/14

Vanpool No. 120 to 200E needs two 8x9 riders. Leaves Flat Top Park at 6:10 a.m. Drops off at 2750-E, WESF and 2727. Contact **Marion** at 372-0383. 5/21

YAKIMA

8x9 vanpool to 200W has two openings. Contact **Don Vader** at 373-3223 or (509) 966-5543. 5/21 ♦

Regular Features

NEWS BRIEFS



Do not destroy record material

The Office of Site Services of the Department of Energy Richland Operations Office wants you to remember that a court order is still in effect for the Hanford Site. Until further notice, no record material, regardless of its specified retention period, may be destroyed. Maintaining inactive records in office space is expensive. Records can be sent to the Records Holding Area for storage and subsequent retrieval. Records can also be scanned into the Records Management Information System, or RMIS, for electronic retrieval. Your records management specialist will be happy to help you with this process. ♦



DOE-REC sponsors Bowling Night 2001 on June 1

DOE-REC Bowling Night 2001 will take place 5:30-8:30 p.m. on June 1 at Go Bowl at 2799 West Lewis St. Pasco. The cost is \$10 per person, which includes three games of bowling, special prizes, shoe rental and dinner (sandwiches, salads and drink). For more information or to make your reservations, call Mat Irwin at 373-9820 or Hector Rodriguez at 376-642.